

that there is no one individual in this room who believes in the capitalistic society more than I, but at the same time I want to say this: In my opinion, there is no freedom without economic freedom.

DELEGATE JAMES (presiding): Does anyone wish to speak?

Let's see. Where are we? Does anyone wish to speak for?

Delegate Key?

DELEGATE KEY: No.

DELEGATE JAMES (presiding): Does anyone wish to speak against the amendment?

Delegate Key.

DELEGATE KEY: I had not planned to speak at all, but Delegate Hutchinson stood up and sort of aroused something within my breast, and words will not stay in. I think the crash of 1929 killed the true capitalistic form of government that we once enjoyed. We have been on a detour from that since the Roosevelt administrations of the 1930's.

Now, our constitution does in its preamble recognize that all political power originates in the people, and that all government is instituted to secure their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Now, Delegate Pullen just stole my next sentence. There is no freedom without economic freedom. There is no liberty without economic freedom, and there is no life, real life, without economic security. So having recognized in our constitution that political power originates in the people and that all government is instituted to secure these rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, I want you also to recognize the same political power and the same government has to work to secure that economic freedom that is necessary before any other can be secured. And do not ever forget that socialism which we just do not want to mention, but which we do have parts of, is for the rich and free enterprise as much as it is for the poor.

DELEGATE JAMES (presiding): Does anyone wish to speak for the amendment?

Delegate Hanson.

DELEGATE HANSON: Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak for the amendment with a sense of real despair. I happen personally to believe everything that is said in the proposal of the Committee. I believe it is

right. I believe it is just, and I believe it ought to be the policy of the State of Maryland. I just do not believe it ought to be in the constitution of the State of Maryland. I do not believe it ought to be in the constitution of the State of Maryland because I think it is utterly meaningless in the constitution of the State of Maryland.

Where I think it has meaning is in the marching orders of the political parties, in the laws of this State, in its administration of justice, in the compassion of its officials and in the discussion of the laws. I think in the constitution it has a meaning equal to those words in the 1867 Constitution that said monopolies are odious, contrary to the spirit of a free government, principles of commerce, and ought not to be suffered.

But this in the Constitution has not stopped one of them from developing. Those words in that Constitution that said that the legislature ought to encourage the diffusion of knowledge and virtue and it ought to. But I submit, ladies and gentlemen, we are not any more knowledgeable or virtuous by the fact of these words being in the Constitution than we would be if they were not in the Constitution. That is unfortunate. I deplore it, but I do not think we help ourselves. I think we are kidding ourselves. I think we are kidding the people of this State if we put into the constitution words that we cannot enforce, words that we have no capacity to find self enforcement for.

This does not guarantee us anything. I think the right of collective bargaining which we agreed to yesterday does guarantee us something. It is an important right. I think economic freedom is very important. I think we ought to dedicate ourselves to work for it. I think we ought to insure that it gets enacted into the laws of this State, but I do not see the utility of putting it in the constitution. I do not believe that this advances us one step toward a better annual income for any person in the State or improves the economic well-being of any person in the State. If we have before us amendments which will do that, I will gladly vote for them. I will gladly help develop amendments if we can develop them for the constitution that will achieve that objective. This, unfortunately, does not do it. I am afraid it is a sham.

DELEGATE JAMES (presiding): Are you ready for the question?

I see some eager delegates who would like to be heard. Does anyone wish to speak in favor?